

REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

The specification has been amended as to form.

The previously pending claims have been replaced with new claims drafted to be proper as to form and patentably recite the present invention.

Prior claims 6-8 were rejected under §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The presently pending claims are believed to be definite and, accordingly, withdrawal of the indefiniteness rejection is solicited.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation that the Official Action indicated that claims 3-5, 12, and 13 were directed to allowable subject matter.

In reliance thereupon, new claims 27-28 are based on the recitations of allowable claim 3. New claims 29-30 depend from new claim 28. In view of these claims reciting subject matter indicated to be allowable, allowance of these claims is solicited.

New independent claim 14 is based on prior claim 1, drafted without reference numbers and drafted to recite the heating elements situated under the bottom wall so as to directly heat the bottom wall. Support for these recitations can be found at least at specification, page 12, line 37, through

specification, page 13, line 1, and page 7, lines 33-34. The remaining new claims are based on claims previously presented.

Prior claims 1, 9, and 10 were rejected as anticipated by OIWA 5,174,273. Claim 11 was rejected as obvious over this reference.

The prior art in general, and this reference in particular, do not teach or suggest the features recited by new independent claim 14. That is to say, the advantages of providing heating elements under the bottom wall so as to heat directly the bottom wall, is not taught or suggested. According to this feature it is possible to heat the bottom wall for cooking products by contact, for example to seal meat, as per specification page 3, lines 4-10 and page 14, lines 15-18.

In view of this, allowance of claim 14 as well as the claims depending therefrom, is respectfully requested.

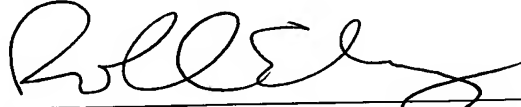
Applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early indication of the same is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional
fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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REL/mjr
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